

MCFRS Driver Safety Bulletin

Collision Avoidance

Avoiding the Apparatus Overhead Door Collision

During the year 2005, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Apparatus were involved in eight collision/incidents involving apparatus overhead doors, remote controls and defective door timers. Below are some safety tips to avoid these types of collision events.

- Inform detail or new drivers the procedures for overhead door operations, timers, and remote controls for your station.
- Check door timers and door safety devices monthly to ensure operability.
- Ensure that all door remote control devices are labeled for the doors they operate. Clearly label remote traffic control devices.
- Avoid using multi-function remote control devices. For example, door and traffic light operation on same device.
- Do not activate door remote control devices while apparatus is moving through doorway.
- Do not drive through an overhead door opening while door is still moving.
- Do not activate an overhead door from any position which precludes full view of the vehicle and the door either by the activating party or an observer.
- When backing into the station, the driver should have their driver side window down in order to hear door alarms or firefighters directing them to stop because of a hazard.



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